

(c) the loss suffered due to the strike?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ten officers of ONGC were kidnapped in North-East India, out of whom five officers have been released and the remaining three are reported to have been released. However, one officer is yet to establish contact consequent on his release. Two officers were killed.

(c) From 9.9.1991 till normalisation of operations, ONGC suffered loss of production equivalent to Rs. 90.22 crores (excluding levies).

Flood Banks in Andhra Pradesh

4672. SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for strengthening the flood banks in Andhra Pradesh is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) to (c). In November, 199, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had informed Central Water Commission that they have a proposal to raise the existing flood banks of the Godavari river downstream to Sir Arthur Cotton barrage as per the norms laid down by Central Water Commission in a phased manner in the coming 4 years. The detailed project report has not been received at the Centre for technology economic appraisal.

Vehicles at the Disposal of Indian Embassies

4673. SHRI RAM NARIN BERWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicles at the disposal of Indian Embassies and High Commissions abroad; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on their maintenance during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Setting up of Oil Refineries with the Help of Non-Resident Indians

4674. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up some oil Refineries in the country with the help of Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, the number of such Oil Refineries proposed to be set up; and

(c) the places where such Oil Refineries are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (c). No decision

has been taken to set up a refinery with the assistance of non-resident Indians.

Privatisation of IISCO

4675. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal for privatisation of IISCO.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any decision for further investment in the IISCO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEB): (a) and (b). Shri Swraj Paul of Caparo Group Limited, London wrote to the Prime Minister stating that the Chief Minister of West Bengal had desired him to visit the Indian Iron and Steel Company with a view to looking at a possible take over of that Company. The Chief Minister of West Bengal has also written to the Prime Minister drawing his attention to Shri Swaraj Paul's letter. Chief Minister, West Bengal, has requested that the proposal of Shri Swaraj Paul may be considered on a very urgent basis in view of the present difficult resources position.

(c) and (d). The proposal regarding modernisation of IISCO is pending before

the Public Investment Board. SAIL are also exploring various alternatives for funding of the project.

National Oil Grid

**4676. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATH-
ERIA:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in establishing a National Oil Grid; and

(b) the number of storage and packaging stations along with their locations set up the National Dair Development Board so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRA) (a) Towards the objective of establishing a National Oil Grid, NDDB has created (a) oil storage of about 2.35 lakh tonnes under NDDB's Vegetable Oil Project, (b) Packaging infrastructure to pack about 1.4 lakh tonnes of oil annually.

NDDB has also developed an economical transport system to move large quantities of indigenous oil from surplus to deficit areas.

(b) The NDDB has so far financed following storage and packaging stations:

<i>State</i>	<i>Packaging Station</i>	<i>Storage</i>
Gujarat	Anand, Jagudan, Surat	Idar, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Dhasa, Junagadh, Anand, Mehsana, Kandla.
Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain	Ujjain